

Mr. Stubbs, from a select committee, reported favorably on the Senate bill entitled, an act granting the leave of the Legislature to a devise made in the last will of Peter Turner, free negro of Cecil county, to the trustees of West Nottingham Presbyterian church of said county.

Mr. Roberts, from a committee on that subject, reported a bill to aid the erection of a monument commemorative of the Declaration of American Independence;

Which was read the first time.

Also submitted the following

REPORT:

The select committee to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message as relates to the proposed erection on Independence Square, in the city of Philadelphia, of a monument to commemorate the Declaration of American Independence, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully submit the following report and accompanying bill:

For the information of those of the House who may not have had their attention drawn to the subject matter of this report, your committee beg leave to state that it is proposed that the original thirteen States shall erect on a portion of Independence Square, adjacent to Independence Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, a suitable memorial commemorative of the Declaration of Independence, at a cost of about one hundred thousand dollars, to be contributed by the thirteen original States; in proportion to their respective representations in the popular branch of the Congress of the United States. The said monument to be so designed as that the base thereof shall contain thirteen sides or faces, one of which to be appropriated to each of the said thirteen States, and to contain such inscription, &c., as the State may direct, commemorative of some citizen or citizens of her own, as shared the responsibility of the great event designed to be commemorated. Nine of the said States have already signified their willingness to participate in its erection, and we understand a bill similar to that herewith submitted, is now before the Legislature of Virginia, and no doubt is entertained as to its passage.

The undersigned consider the project in every respect deserving the most favorable consideration of the Legislature of Maryland. The motives which dictated it, are eminently patriotic, and the event it is designed to commemorate, one of the most glorious and remarkable in the history of mankind. The extraordinary effects which followed it, resulting in the creation upon this Continent, of a new government, the purest of earth, and now